



**Superior Court of California  
County of Orange**

***NEWS RELEASE***

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**Orange County Superior Court Receives National Award  
for Development and Implementation of a Program to Help Self-Represented Litigants**

Santa Ana - The 2004 Justice Achievement Award was presented to the Orange County Superior Court at the National Association for Court Management Conference, held July 13, in Grapevine, Texas. The Court received the nationally recognized award for its innovative *Interactive Community Assistance Network* program (*I-CAN!*). The program, which can be accessed by using a touch screen kiosk or through a Web interface, helps self-represented litigants gain access to the courts and provides step by step instructions to properly complete legal forms.

“The program walks individuals through the process of completing court forms such as child support payment documents, eviction orders or small claim forms,” said Chief Executive Officer Alan Slater. “It’s a great tool that can be used by victims of domestic violence to file a restraining order. The documents can be conveniently accessed and completed through the Internet from a shelter or anywhere,” added Slater.

The Court, in partnership with the Legal Aid Society of Orange County, developed the interactive and tutorial module to enable self-represented litigants to obtain immediate technical assistance from Legal Aid staff by using Internet phone technology that has been integrated into *I-CAN!* The project, funded through federal, state and local grants, is currently in use in nine California counties. Courts in the states of Oklahoma, Massachusetts, Virginia, Minnesota and Colorado also have *I-CAN!* projects funded. *I-CAN!* was a recipient of the Judicial Council of California 2003 Ralph N. Kleps Award.

The Justice Achievement Award was established in 1988 to recognize outstanding achievement and meritorious projects that enhance the administration of justice. This year 21 project nominations were received.

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